

Abner Baker House,
Carriage House
318 W. Mansion and Kalamazoo Streets
Marshall
Calhoun County
Michigan

HABS No. MI-236 A

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PHOTOGRAPH

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

ABNER BAKER HOUSE,
CARRIAGE HOUSE

HABS No. MI-236 A

Location: 318 West Mansion and Kalamazoo Streets,
Marshall, Calhoun County, Michigan.

PART I. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: This 19th century accessory building retains many original features and forms part of an attractive ensemble. It was originally linked to the house by a wing (see Abner Baker House, HABS No. MI-236).
2. Condition of fabric: Generally good. Interior alterations have been made to the first story.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: Approximately 16' X 24'; the long dimension is east-west. One-and-a-half story rectangular building with basement.
2. Foundations: The foundations are the same as those in the house, being of fieldstone stuccoed on the outside. A watertable of two brick courses, about two feet above grade, lines up with that of the house.
3. Walls: Exterior walls are of brick, 8" thick, laid in American bond-- one course of headers alternating with six courses of stretchers.
4. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: Two openings on the south wall have been bricked up. There is a (pedestrian) doorway near the east end of the south wall; it has a simple wood casing set in a rectangular brick opening, and a four-panel door (a pair of low panels and a tall pair above. They are not molded but have raised fields).
 - A wide opening on the north side is now sheltered by a modern wooden extension which projects about six feet.
 - b. Windows and shutters: There are two windows on each end (east and west) at the first story; there is one at each end in the gable, at the loft level. These all have cast-iron label moldings and wide wood sills, similar to the house windows. Sash appear to be replacements but two in the gable

may be old; they are double hung, four lights over four lights. The vertical muntin is very wide. These windows have fixed louvered shutters whose upper edges are below the labels (i.e., not filling the height of the window openings).

One window on the north side has a flat brick arch; it is double hung, 4/4.

5. Roof: The roof is gabled; it is covered with asphalt composition shingles over older wooden shingles. Rafters are 2" X 6", spaced 2'-7" on centers, with 1" X 7" collars. Sheathing boards are very wide, some up to 2'-0". There is no ridgepole. Eaves are boxed in but do not have a frieze (as does the house). Each gable has ornamental tracery vergeboards and pendant ornament at the apex.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plan: The first story is divided unequally by a transverse frame partition. The second story (loft) is a single space.
2. Stair: An enclosed stair (13 risers) with winders at the top, in the northwest corner, leads to the loft. It has no rail.
3. Floors: The first floor is covered with pine boards which are modern. The second floor is of 1" boards 6 3/4" to 9 1/2" wide; they appear original. Joists are 2" X 8", 12" on centers.
4. Interior finish: The first story is plastered-- walls and ceiling. The second story is unfinished. The inside wall of the stair is of vertical pine boards 5 1/4" wide.

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